

Project Description: This grant will help fund the upgrade of a wastewater pretreatment plant, allowing the Crestwood Farms poultry plant to expand production without violating state and federal regulations. Additionally, the Lagle Water Treatment Plant needs to be upgraded to comply with state and federal standards. These upgrades to the water treatment facilities allow for the retention of 1,300 jobs and the creation of 103 jobs.

Project 14: Specialty Crop and Value Added Entrepreneur Project

Applicant: North Carolina Rural Entrepreneurship through Action Learning, Inc. (NC REAL)

Serves: Alexander, Alleghany, Ashe, Avery, Buncombe, Burke, Caldwell, Cherokee, Clay, Davie, Forsyth, Graham, Haywood, Henderson, Jackson, Macon, Madison, McDowell, Mitchell, Polk, Rutherford, Stokes, Surry, Swain, Transylvania, Watauga, Wilkes, Yadkin and Yancey counties

Amount Funded by ARC: \$35,000 of \$70,000 total cost

Project Description: This grant will initiate a region-wide entrepreneurial training and support network to create and expand sustainable agriculture based businesses in Western North Carolina. The project will include convening partners to discuss regional needs related to sustainable agriculture, holding sustainable agriculture expos, and training instructors to offer specialized entrepreneurial training.

Project 15: Regional Youth Entrepreneurship Initiative

Applicant: North Carolina Rural Entrepreneurship through Action Learning, Inc. (NC REAL)

Serves: Burke, McDowell, Mitchell, Rutherford and Yancey counties

Amount Funded by ARC: \$65,000 of \$108,356 total cost

Project Description: This grant will create a four county effort to increase entrepreneurial opportunities for young people ages 11-18 through a cooperative network of community colleges, school systems, local governments and economic developers. It will also create a regional support team consisting of over 20 community members committed to youth entrepreneurship, train 40 teachers to incorporate entrepreneurship into the classroom, and involve 600 middle and high school students in local and regional events.

Project 16: Asset Management for Community and Economic Development

Applicant: North Carolina Rural Economic Development Center, Inc.